The Constitution Layered Curriculum                                                                American Studies I – History (CP) Sophomores  
  
**NAME**                                                                                                                                                          
  
We will be studying the formation of the Constitution by using a layered curriculum format.  Be sure to follow the directions for each section.  All “mandatory” assignments MUST be completed, but they will count toward the total point score for that particular section.  The last day to turn in points for this unit will be Monday, September 24, 2012.  
  
There are some mandatory assignments that are a part of this unit that are not part of the layered curriculum.  These are:

1. Preamble Quiz – You must take a quiz on the Preamble to the Constitution.  This will be part of your “quizzes and test” grade for the quarter. This quiz will be on Friday, September 14, 2012.
2. Quest on the Constitution – You must take a test on the Constitution, including the build-up to it.  This will be part of your “quizzes and test” grade for the quarter.  This will be either Tuesday, September 25, 2012 or Wednesday, September 26, 2012.

***“C Level”*** – In order to earn at least a “C” you must earn 100 points in order to move on to “B Level.”  In order to earn the points for a specific assignment, you must make an oral defense of it.  **YOU MUST DO #1 AND TURN IT IN TO ME BY THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 13, 2012.** There are over 170 points available to you in this “C Level,” so that in order to move on to the “B Level,” you must earn 90 points by Thursday, September 13, 2012.

1. “Which Founding Father Are You” - You will go to the following website<http://www.constitutioncenter.org/foundersquiz/>.  This will match you up with one of twelve of the men that were at the Constitutional Convention in Philadelphia starting in May, 1787. Then, using the sheet that I have provided, you will create a story board that about a presentation that you would make about that person, including placing a Quick Response, or QR, code in the center of the storyboard.  A story board is a layout of the pictures and text that you would use in a visual presentation.  This must be turned in to me by Thursday, September 13, 2012. 20 points
2. Flash Cards – Create a series of flashcards for the items below - Articles of Confederation, Daniel Shays, Alexander Hamilton, Great Compromise, James Madison, *Federalist Papers*, Bill of Rights, republic, “checks and balances,” Federalist Party, Democratic-Republican Party, Senate, House of Representatives, Electoral College, President, Supreme Court, Commander-in-Chief, legislative branch, executive branch, judicial branch 20 points
3. Choose any of the other people from the Founders Quiz at constitutioncenter.org and create a “fakebook” page using this link: <http://www.classtools.net/fb/home/page>. You should include at least 3 friends, his background information, some posts that he might have made from the convention, and things that he might have liked or disliked. 10 points
4. Choose any of the other people from the Founders Quiz at constitutioncenter.org and create ten (10) tweets that they might have sent during the discussion surrounding the creation of the Constitution. 10 points
5. Go to the computer simulation “Do I Have a Right” at icivics.org.  You will be an office manager in a law firm that listens to potential cases of clients.  You must then bring them to a lawyer with the proper knowledge and expertise to help them.  If, by the end of the simulation, you gain 3900 or more points,  you will earn 10 points.  If you gain between 3000 and 3899 points, you will earn 8 points.  If you gain 2000 - 2999 point you will earn 6 points.  If you gain anything less than 2000 points, you will need to play again in order to earn any points.  You are welcome to play this game more than once to try and gain as many points as you can up to 10 points.  Because you signed up and joined your class for iCivics.org at school, I will be able to see your results and will only look at your best score.
6. Go to the computer simulation “Executive Command” at icivics.org.  You will be the President of the United States forced to make a number of different decisions about how to run the country, including what the most important issue your administration is going to try and tackle, how to deal with countries that want to go to war, and which departments are best suited to carry out the legislation that you pass into law.  If you gain more than 30,000 points, you will earn 10 points. If you gain between 25,000 and 29,999 points, you will earn 8 points.  If you gain between 20,000 and 24,999 points, you will earn 6 points.  If you gain anything less than 20,000 points, you will need to play again to earn any points.  You may play as many times as you like in order to earn up to 10 points.  Because you signed up and joined your class for iCivics.org at school, I will be able to see your results and will only look at your best score.
7. Go to the computer simulation “Represent Me” at icivics.org.  You will be a politician listening reading through a series of bills and deciding which people they most effectively represent.  Then, you will choose the three bills that will give you the best chance for re-elections based on the needs of your constituents.  If you win re-elections with more than 60% of the vote you will earn 10 points.  If you earn re-election with between 50% and 59% of the vote, you will earn 8 points.  If you are not re-elected, you should play again until you are.  Because you signed up and joined your class for iCivics.org at school, I will be able to see your results and will only look at your best score.
8. Go to the computer simulation “Court Quest” at icivics.org.  You will be a lawyer “listening” to potential clients who have been complaints before one of the many courts in the both the state and federal system.  Your job is to help as many clients as you can in 15 minutes.  If you gain more than 1800 points, you will earn 10 points.  If you gain between 1500 points and 1799 points, you will earn 8 points.  If you gain between 1200 and1499 points, you will earn 6 points.  If you gain anything less than 1200 points, you should play the simulation again.  You can select the practice version as many times as you like.  When you are done with the 15 minute version of the simulation, print out your score and bring it in.  Because you signed up and joined your class for iCivics.org at school, I will be able to see your results and will only look at your best score.
9. Go to the computer simulation “Supreme Decision” at icivics.org.  You will be a clerk for a Supreme Court justice trying to help her figure out which side should win the case as to whether or a band T-shirt should be speech protected under the 1st Amendment.  If you gain more than 530 points, you will earn 10 points.  If you gain between 480 and 529 points, you will earn 8 points.  If you gain between 440 and 479 points, you will earn 6 points.  If you gain anything less than 440 points you should play the simulation again.  You may play the simulation as many times as you like in an effort to earn 10 points.  Because you signed up and joined your class for iCivics.org at school, I will be able to see your results and will only look at your best score.
10. Create a chart that lists the leaders of the United States government and their counterparts in the Massachusetts state government.  Include leaders of the Executive, Legislative, and Judicial branches.  10 points
11. Using timetoast.com, create a timeline of the events under the Articles of Confederation that bothered leaders of the nation so much that they developed the Constitution.  The timeline should include a least 6 points and a brief description about each point. E-mail the link to the timeline to Mr. Boyle at [dboyle@trsd.net](mailto:dboyle@trsd.net) 10 points
12. Watch the SchoolHouse Rock video “I’m Just a Bill” and create a flowchart that describes how a bill becomes a law.  You can view the video at the class wiki here: <http://tritonamericanstudies1cp.wikispaces.com/The+Constitution#SchoolHouse>. You can create a flowchart by hand or by using MicrosoftWord. 10 points
13. Read one of Jean Fritz’s books (available in the school library) about the formation of the Constitution.  Here are the titles: Shh! We’re Writing the Constitution, The Great Little Madison, Come up with 8 - 10 facts from the books.  5 points
14. Create a list of the people that represent you in Washington, D.C. (Representative and Senators),  Boston (State Representative and State Senator) and your town (selectmen and school committee) 5 points
15. Read Chapter 5 and answer the questions at the end of each section. 4 sections x 5 points each section

If you earn between 80 – 89 points, you will earn a C- for this unit, 60 - 79 points a D+.  If you earn anything more than 90 points without moving on to the “B Level,” you will earn a C+ for this unit.  Earning between 20 – 60 points will result in an F, and anything less than 20 points will result in an F-.

***“B Level”*** – In order to earn at least a “B” and move on to the “A Level” you must complete and be quizzed on two of the following assignments.  You may only do one from #2 – 4.  These points must be turned in by Tuesday, September 18, 2012.

1. Create a VoiceThread of the Founding Father that you are most like (you created the storyboard for this in the mandatory assignments section above).
2. Create a poster that displays and explains the 3 branches of government. This should include images.
3. Create a mobile showing the Constitutional requirements of being a member of the House of Representatives, a Senator, or the President.  This should include images of the specific people involved in each branch.
4. Create a mobile of the 5 rights granted by the 1st Amendment to the Constitution.  This should include images.
5. Interview a local politician about what he or she believes are the biggest issues facing your town.
6. Draw a political cartoon about one of the major issues in the Presidential election that will take place on November 6, 2012
7. Using the graphic novel maker, <http://www.comicmaster.org.uk/>, make a one-page book about either of the following events: The Great Compromise or the debate over whether or not there should be a Bill of Rights attached to the Constitution.

***“A Level”*** – In order to earn an “A” you must complete and have a discussion about one of the following four assignments.  You must write a 2-3 page paper about the topic that you select. This is due by Monday, September 24, 2012.

1. Is the Constitution a racist or sexist document?  Provide examples and reference points.
2. What will the next amendment to the Constitution be?  Why will this amendment be necessary?
3. Is the current Supreme Court too powerful?  Provide examples.